

Work to begin soon on homestead office

As soon as the holidays are over, work will begin on the new Jenkins assessor’s office, the latest restoration project planned for the homestead.

The second floor room that once served as the society’s office will be completely renovated to resemble what it might have looked like when John Jenkins served as tax assessor for Gwynedd Township in the late 1700s.

The project will involve removing the bookshelves originally built to hold bound newspaper volumes and a closet that was added during the years when the homestead was used as an apartment house.

Once the room is cleared, it will be rewired, new adjustable shelving – faced with Colonial-era trim - will be installed, the floors will be refinished and the walls will receive a fresh coat of paint. The centerpiece will be a

large desk befitting a tax assessor.

At the same time, the floors in the hallway and children’s room will also be refinished.

The society will be participating in a number of special events during the com-



NEW OFFICE: This room in the Jenkins Homestead will be renovated into John Jenkins’ assessor’s office beginning in January.

ing year. Among them are the second Lansdale Founders Day in August and the Montgomery County history Fair planned for September at Trappe. Planning is also under way for the society’s second Spring Tea.

Donations in mayor’s name will fund several projects

The society was one of several non-profit organizations earmarked for donations in the name of the late Mayor Mike DiNunzio.

To date more than \$1,700 has been received. The donations will be used to fund several needs in the coming months. The first of these is a new headset microphone to be used at our Community Programs.

We thank all of you who contributed in Mike’s name.

Lansdale Historical Society 137 Jenkins Ave., Lansdale, PA 19446



The Jenkins Historic Complex

The Lansdale Historical Society

Jenkins Journal

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See some of Mike’s favorite things

Dec. 3 open house features the late mayor’s collectibles

The late Mayor Mike DiNunzio was known throughout the North Penn region for his bright-as-sunshine smile, firm handshake and an unabashed commitment to family, friends and his beloved Lansdale.

Another aspect of Mike’s life was not often seen in public: He was a life-long collector of anything that tickled his fancy.

As part of the borough’s annual holiday celebration, the Lansdale Historical Society will open the doors of the Jenkins Homestead and Research Center for an extensive display of the collectibles Mike gathered over the years. The open house will be held **Saturday, Dec. 3, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.** As usual, there will be no admission charge but all donations will help us preserve Lansdale’s historic past.

Many of us have seen some of the mayor’s antique car collection, including his green MG, the powder blue 1965 Mustang, his police paddy wagon



Mike DiNunzio Jr. and wife Mary Beth in the mayor’s private museum.

and scaled down fire truck, which were often featured in local parades.

But for this event we’ll focus on the many other items Mike amassed in his private “museum”. His eclectic interests included hammers, railroad

lanterns, license plates, scale model cars and trucks, toys, antique clocks, old shoemaker’s tools (of course), and so much more we couldn’t list it all here.

One of his favorite possessions was, of all things, a James Brown singing doll. Turn it on and the Godfather of Soul sings “I Feel Good!”

Weather permitting, we may have some surprises to display on the Jenkins Complex patio. The other items will be placed throughout the homestead and research center with family members and friends on hand to share memories of the mayor.



